

Wireless access should not be governed by ILECs or fees paid to ILECs unless two things happen: (1) Their networks become open to any business which wishes to set up its own wireless services and (2) they cannot collect fees for any services or equipment they do not provide.

ILECs have an enormous advantage in the local marketplace because of both their incumbency and also their monopoly status. The public interest will not be served by extending these factors from the wireline into the wireless space with rules that heavily favor the ILECs.

This is a NEW service and one which, by its nature, will begin locally and spread. Giving ILECs too much power will stifle innovation and market adoption of these new technologies. In fact, ILEC networks should be made ridiculously easy to enter for new service providers. Advantages and monopolies have already been granted to these operations with the stipulation that they act in the public interest through legislation. It is in the public's interest to have wide open access to these incumbent networks so that the broadest possible range of solutions can be offered by the widest number of players affordably and legally. This concept should also apply to the cable networks which are quite closed to alternative service providers at this time, though they bear monopoly and incumbency advantages as well.

Already, there are many wireless ISPs across this country providing wireless high speed access to customers who would otherwise have very little other option because of the ILECs and their priorities.

This is a bad law which will stifle innovation, hurt small business, and hurt consumer choice.